

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 01153 251549Z
ACTION EUR-12

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R 251501Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO USDOC WASHDC
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AMEMBASSY VIENNA

UNCLAS MOSCOW 1153

STATE PASS INTERIOR FOR BUMINES
FOR BEWT/TPD/ROBB AND TDAD/LUCYK
VIENNA FOR VONTILLIUS

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: BEXP EMIN UR
SUBJECT: SEMINAR/mini-exhibit on automation of alumina production,
NOV 1977

REF: MOSCOW 344

1. COMATT AND COMOFF MET LAST WEEK WITH ROBERT A. HAWKINS,
PRESIDENT, APPLIED RESEARCH LABORATORIES, AND ALEXANDER GAISS,
FIRM'S USSR EXPORT SALES MANAGER, TO DISCUSS PLANS FOR SUBJECT
EVENT. HAWKINS EXPLAINED THAT ARL HAS SOLD DIRECT READING SPEC-
TROGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT FOR PROCESS CONTROL IN SOVIET COPPER EX-
TRACTION INSTALLATIONS (E.G. ARMALYK) BUT HAS NO EXPERIENCE WITH
APPLICATIONS IN ALUMINA PRODUCTION, EITHER IN USSR OR ELSEWHERE.
HE SUGGESTED THAT ALTHOUGH ARL MIGHT PROVIDE PART OF EQUIPMENT
SPECTRUM NECESSARY FOR ON-LINE PROCESS CONTROL IN ALUMINA PLANTS,
IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO BUILD SEMINAR AROUND ALUMINA PRODUCER
WHICH HAS DEVELOPED SUCH A SYSTEM. FOLLOWING MEETINGS AT
MINISTRY OF NON-FERROUS METALLURGY, GAISS ADVISED COMOFF AT
END OF WEEK THAT ARL WOULD DEFER DECISION ON PARTICIPATION IN
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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 01153 251549Z

SEMINAR UNTIL ITS SPECIALISTS VISITED SOVIET UNION IN MARCH.

2. COMMENT: WE AGREE WITH HAWKINS THAT SEMINAR MUST BE
BUILT AROUND ALUMINA PRODUCER POSSESSING ON-LINE PROCESS CON-
TROL TECHNOLOGY, IF SUCH A SYSTEM DOES INDEED EXIST. RECOM-
MEND, THEREFORE, THE TPD CONSULT BUREAU OF MINES FOR INFORMA-
TION ON U.S. DEVELOPMENTS IN THIS FIELD AND THEN CONTACT APPRO-

PRIATE PRODUCERS. GOOD BET WOULD BE ALCOA, WHICH IS STILL ACTIVELY
COMPETING FOR SIBERIAN ALUMINUM SMELTER CONTRACT (CONTACT: E.P.
WHITE, SALES MANAGER, TECHNOLOGY DIVISION, PITTSBURGH, 412/553-
4925). IF DESIRED TECHNOLOGY DOES NOT EXIST, HOWEVER, WE WOULD
LIKE TO SO INFORM MINISTRY ASAP AND REQUEST OTHER THEME SUGGES-
TIONS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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